



# NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
July 25, 2003

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## **FCC and Industry Canada Sign Spectrum Sharing Arrangement for Wireless Communications Service**

Washington D.C. -- In a continuing series of bilateral spectrum arrangements, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Industry Canada have signed an Interim Arrangement regarding the Wireless Communications Service (WCS) (WCS Arrangement). The WCS Arrangement will facilitate deployment of WCS systems near the U.S.-Canada border, bringing a broad range of fixed, mobile and other terrestrial wireless services to businesses and consumers such as video distribution, programming, digital broadband and Internet services.

The WCS Arrangement sets forth the principles and mechanisms for spectrum sharing by WCS licensees operating in the 2305-2320 MHz and 2345-2360 MHz bands near the U.S.-Canada border. In the United States, there are two WCS licensees for each of the FCC-designated 52 Major Economic Areas as well as the 12 Regional Economic Area Groups. The Arrangement establishes criteria for determining the WCS stations near the U.S.-Canadian border that require coordination and allows cross-border licensees to conduct coordination in their respective service areas.

Specifically, the WCS Arrangement:

- requires WCS licensees to coordinate a WCS station if it is located at a distance less than 120 km from the U.S./Canada border and if it produces at ground level in the other country's territory a power flux density (pfd) level greater than -110 dB(W/m<sup>2</sup>) in any 1 MHz bandwidth;
- encourages WCS licensees to develop their own cross-border sharing agreements, and states that when a joint agreement is reached, its terms will govern and that other coordination provisions contained in the Arrangement need not be further applied;
- requires WCS licensees located within 120 km of existing fixed microwave stations previously authorized by either Administration to coordinate with licensees of such fixed microwave stations if the WCS station would produce a pfd exceeding -110 dB (W/m<sup>2</sup>) in any 1 MHz bandwidth at or beyond the border.

The WCS Arrangement, titled "Interim Arrangement Concerning the Use of the Frequency Bands 2305 – 2320 MHz and 2345 -2360 MHz By Stations in the Wireless Communications Service (WCS) Near the Canada/United States of America Border" is part of a series of arrangements between the United

States and Canada stemming from a 1962 foundation agreement between the two countries regarding non-broadcast services. The full text of the WCS Arrangement is available at the International Bureau Reference Room CY-A257, located on the Courtyard level of 445 12<sup>th</sup> St. S.W.; from the FCC's duplicating contractor, Qualex International at (202) 863-2893 and on the FCC International Bureau website at: [www.fcc.gov/ib/sand/agree](http://www.fcc.gov/ib/sand/agree).

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